



Chairman's Report for AGM 2021

Once more due to the pandemic, face to face meetings were not held at all last year, but business still happened thanks to virtual platforms like zoom and my thanks go to the trustees who all embraced this way of communication.

We maintained our relationship with Uganda NSGF, supporting the International project building huts for Sudanese refugees. Indeed at our annual meeting last year we had a presentation about our own SAGF visit to see these huts. As a result of this visit we have played a big part in the development of a micro enterprise involving the breeding of rabbits in Uganda.

In the lead up to the first lockdown some members helped Scout and Guide units with the International element of the programme and have since helped with virtual events keeping the Scouting and Guiding light shining. Due to teams platforms members were also able to participate in world events that would otherwise be impossible.

The Gilwell Gathering was held virtually last year but we used their platform to display an advert letting others know who we were and take part in the activities offered over the weekend. It was a well organised event and showed what was possible through the media.

The pandemic allowed members to support work within their communities. Knitted squares were made into blankets for care homes, some helped with food distribution and others made protective clothing for NHS workers among many more projects helping in the situation.

Unfortunately our plans for membership development through workshops have not happened but we have been able to make our online presence, facebook and website more welcoming. A big thank you to Kim Melhuish and Sue Beavis for their help.

Even through Covid members have raised funds for projects through quizzes and selling crafts etc. An 'easy fundraising' account online helps generate funds through internet purchases. More ideas are in the pipe line.

Finally I would like to thank all the trustees and members for their support throughout last year.

I am sure that things will improve and that next year we will be able to visit Chester at last. Third time lucky!

Muriel